

OVERSEAS DIFFERENTIALS AND ALLOWANCES ACT

HR-7758

Passage of HR-7758 has a direct effect on certain benefits that accrue to Agency personnel abroad. Changes that are anticipated upon issuance of appropriate Executive Orders and implementing regulations are set forth below. Agency Regulations will be revised to reflect these changes as soon as implementing orders are made available.

1. Standardized Allowances - extends definition of "foreign areas" to include the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.
 - a. Temporary Lodging Allowance - adds an allowance to be granted for periods of up to 1 month immediately preceding final departure from a post abroad subsequent to necessary evacuation of residence quarters.
 - b. Initial Repairs - allows reimbursement under unusual circumstances for initial repairs to make substandard dwellings habitable.
 - c. Separation Allowance - authorizes payment when employee maintains his family away from the post of assignment although not necessarily outside the country of assignment.
 - d. Education Allowance - modifies the prohibition on payment of allowance to the 12 months following arrival in the United States when travel expenses to the United States are authorized for secondary education purposes. This change is intended only to provide needed flexibility to allow for transfers between overseas stations where educational facilities differ. Authorizes travel to the school or college as opposed to the port of entry.

Authorizes travel from the Canal Zone for undergraduate college education.

2. Storage and Shipment

- a. Storage - permits storage of effects for all Agency employees traveling to permanent duty posts outside the 48 States and the District of Columbia.
- b. Shipment of Household Effects - removes limitation previously in effect for Alaska, Hawaii, Territories, and possessions. Adopts net-weight concept.
- c. Shipment of Privately Owned Automobiles - broadens authority from "automobile" to "motor vehicle". Allows transportation of a replacement after 4 years.

3. Leave

- a. Home Leave - grants home leave to Agency employees not to exceed 1 week for each 4 months service after 24 months of continuous service outside the United States (no home leave for Alaska and Hawaii).
- b. Leave Travel Following Assignment Abroad - extends authority for payment of travel expenses and appropriate travel time without charge to leave to Alaska, Hawaii, the Territories and possessions. Removes requirement that employees have sufficient annual leave to carry them in pay status for 30 days.

4. Overseas Medical Program - authorizes the extension of this program to employees in Alaska, Hawaii, Territories, and possessions, and to employees on TDY outside the 48 States and the District of Columbia.